THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (c) According to available information, 230 Indian fishermen and 37 boats have been captured and detained by Pakistani authorities since March 1994. Pakistan has, however, so far only acknowledged 190 fishermen and 31 boats to be in their custody.

(d) As a result of our efforts, 110 fishermen and 18 boats were released by Pakistan between May, 1994 and January, 1995. However, these fishermen and boats were seized by Pakistani authorities prior to March, 1994.

(e) and (f) Government is pursuing vigorously all the cases of Indian fishermen currently under detention in Pakistan.

During the meeting of External Affairs Minister with the then Pakistani Foreign Minister in Delhi on 18th December, 1996, the issue of the release/repatriation of fishermen in each other's custody was discussed and it was decided that data should be exchanged by both sides and the concerned officials would meet as soon as possible to address this issue. The relevant data is being compiled.

(g) Incidents of capture of Indian fishermen by Pakistani Security Agencies occur off the Coast of Gujarat, close to our maritime boundary. Regular and continuous patrolling of our territorial waters off the coast of Gujarat is being maintained by the concerned Indian authorities to prevent unintended drifting of boats from both countries into each other's territory.

(h) Both countries had undertaken in 1987 that the concerned authorities in each country would take all steps to educate their fishermen to stay at a safe distance from each other's Maritime Zones.

[Translation]

Deaths due to Chicken Pox and Measles in U.P.

3514. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of deaths took place in Uttar Pradesh from Chicken pox and measles during 1995-96;

(b) whether any new immunisation scheme has been prepared by the Government to prevent chicken pox and measles virus; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) As per information available for the year 1996 (upto June, 96), 65 deaths due to measles were reported in Uttar Pradesh. Howver, no data is available in respect of deaths due to chicken-pox.

(b) and (c) Vaccination against measles is already included in the immunisation programme of the Department of Family Welfare. There is no programme for immunisation against Chicken-pox.

Vocationalisation of Education

3515. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have vocationalised the Secondary Education;

(b) if so whether the Government have set up Central Institutes in various States for this purpose;

(c) if so, the locations thereof in Uttar Pradesh; and

(d) the details of the works done by the said Institutes so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) Yes Sir, Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education was started in February, 1988 under which vocational education has been introduced at the +2 level selected schools.

(b) The Central Institute of Vocational Education named "Pt. Sunderlal Sharma Central Inctiture of Vocational Education" was set up at Bhopal in 1993 under the aegis of National Council of Educational Research and Training.

(c) and (d) The Scheme envisages establishment of either such Institutes in the States or a wing in the State Councils of Educational Research and Training for providing research and development support to the programme. No separate Institute fo Vocational Education has been set up by the State of Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

Ground Water Level in Delhi

3516. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the water requirement of residents of Delhi are primarily met with gound water;

(b) whether the Government are also aware that the level of ground water in Delhi is going down sharply;

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for drawing ground water in Delhi with the help of WAPCO or any other agency;

(d) whether any amount has been allocated to Delhi Government for raising the ground water level during the last three years;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the success achieved by Delhi Government in this regard?